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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/630,898

07/31/2003

Bar-Chung Hwang

Q76735

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23373

7590

07/26/2006

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EXAMINER

BATAILLE, PIERRE MICHE

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2186

DATE MAILED: 07/26/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Advisory Action
Before the Filing of an Appeal Brief**

Application No.

10/630,898

Applicant(s)

HWANG ET AL.

Examiner

Pierre-Michel Bataille

Art Unit

2186

--The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

THE REPLY FILED 30 June 2006 FAILS TO PLACE THIS APPLICATION IN CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE.

1. ☒ The reply was filed after a final rejection, but prior to or on the same day as filing a Notice of Appeal. To avoid abandonment of this application, applicant must timely file one of the following replies: (1) an amendment, affidavit, or other evidence, which places the application in condition for allowance; (2) a Notice of Appeal (with appeal fee) in compliance with 37 CFR 41.31; or (3) a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) in compliance with 37 CFR 1.114. The reply must be filed within one of the following time periods:

- a) ☐ The period for reply expires _____ months from the mailing date of the final rejection.
b) ☒ The period for reply expires on: (1) the mailing date of this Advisory Action, or (2) the date set forth in the final rejection, whichever is later. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of the final rejection.

Examiner Note: If box 1 is checked, check either box (a) or (b). ONLY CHECK BOX (b) WHEN THE FIRST REPLY WAS FILED WITHIN TWO MONTHS OF THE FINAL REJECTION. See MPEP 706.07(f).

Extensions of time may be obtained under 37 CFR 1.136(a). The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. The appropriate extension fee under 37 CFR 1.17(a) is calculated from: (1) the expiration date of the shortened statutory period for reply originally set in the final Office action; or (2) as set forth in (b) above, if checked. Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of the final rejection, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

NOTICE OF APPEAL

2. ☐ The Notice of Appeal was filed on _____. A brief in compliance with 37 CFR 41.37 must be filed within two months of the date of filing the Notice of Appeal (37 CFR 41.37(a)), or any extension thereof (37 CFR 41.37(e)), to avoid dismissal of the appeal. Since a Notice of Appeal has been filed, any reply must be filed within the time period set forth in 37 CFR 41.37(a).

AMENDMENTS

3. ☐ The proposed amendment(s) filed after a final rejection, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because
(a) ☐ They raise new issues that would require further consideration and/or search (see NOTE below);
(b) ☐ They raise the issue of new matter (see NOTE below);
(c) ☐ They are not deemed to place the application in better form for appeal by materially reducing or simplifying the issues for appeal; and/or
(d) ☐ They present additional claims without canceling a corresponding number of finally rejected claims.

NOTE: _____. (See 37 CFR 1.116 and 41.33(a)).

4. ☐ The amendments are not in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121. See attached Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (PTOL-324).
5. ☐ Applicant's reply has overcome the following rejection(s): _____.
6. ☐ Newly proposed or amended claim(s) _____ would be allowable if submitted in a separate, timely filed amendment canceling the non-allowable claim(s).
7. ☒ For purposes of appeal, the proposed amendment(s): a) ☐ will not be entered, or b) ☒ will be entered and an explanation of how the new or amended claims would be rejected is provided below or appended.
The status of the claim(s) is (or will be) as follows:
Claim(s) allowed: NONE.
Claim(s) objected to: NONE.
Claim(s) rejected: 1 and 3-20.
Claim(s) withdrawn from consideration: 2.

AFFIDAVIT OR OTHER EVIDENCE

8. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence filed after a final action, but before or on the date of filing a Notice of Appeal will not be entered because applicant failed to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why the affidavit or other evidence is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 1.116(e).
9. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence filed after the date of filing a Notice of Appeal, but prior to the date of filing a brief, will not be entered because the affidavit or other evidence failed to overcome all rejections under appeal and/or appellant fails to provide a showing of good and sufficient reasons why it is necessary and was not earlier presented. See 37 CFR 41.33(d)(1).
10. ☐ The affidavit or other evidence is entered. An explanation of the status of the claims after entry is below or attached.

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION/OTHER

11. ☐ The request for reconsideration has been considered but does NOT place the application in condition for allowance because: _____.
12. ☐ Note the attached Information Disclosure Statement(s). (PTO/SB/08 or PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____.
13. ☐ Other: _____.

Pierre-Michel Bataille
Primary Examiner
Art Unit: 2186

ADVISORY ACTION

1. Applicant contends that the applied reference of Mick et al (US 5,751,638) fail to disclose, " a global register and status values of the ports are mapped to the global register". However, referring back to the discussion of the Non-Final Rejection response (dated 06 March 2006), applicant contended that Mick et al discloses two devices to share a memory device with a semaphore logic circuit to arbitrate on a first receive basis between access requests from the left and right electronic devices, which is different from applicant's claimed invention. This constitutes admission that the global register switching one of the ports to connect with the CPU is met. The arbitration system device selectively switches or couples memory banks to the left or to the right. A global register to store status values of the corresponding ports is met as status registers 309 and 310 store values of the corresponding ports. Mick clearly teaches a status register having at least one bit indicative of a written status of at least one mailbox register associated with the first port and the second port and readable to the first port and the second port. Fig. 4 of Mick's disclosure features the access requesting device being granted memory bank access of the memory device and selectively coupling circuitry selectively coupling individual ones of memory to the left and right ports.

Mick's FIG. 3 illustrates a block diagram of a portion of the memory device 201 including memory banks and port coupling logic combined as block 301, and a semaphore logic circuit 302 providing control signals in the form of left and right-side

bank access grant signals, left and right ports, 203 and 204, for communicating with the left and right resource sharing devices, global register or semaphore logic having left and right status registers corresponding to the left and right memory ports.

Mick et al discloses (as depicted in Fig. 34) the left status registers 309 to include, as examples, a left interrupt status register addressable by address xx1F hex when the control signal line SEM#L is active LOW and a left semaphore status register addressable by address xx1E hex when the control signal line SEM#L is active LOW. Similarly, the right status registers 310 include, as examples, a right interrupt status register addressable by address xx1F hex when the control signal line SEM#R is active LOW and a right semaphore status register addressable by address xx1E hex when the control signal line SEM#R is active LOW. In other words both right and left status registers have the same address, corresponding to the arguments of applicant's claimed feature.

The arbitration feature, as clearly indicated by the application is the actual proof of sharing of more than one port as "a port coupling circuitry selectively couples selected memory banks to the left and right ports in response to the bank access grant signals. Similar to the claimed invention, Mick discloses left and right memory bank address circuits having left and right status registers storing value of the right and left memory banks and in responding to access a port coupling circuitry selectively couples selected memory banks to the left and right ports in response to the bank access grant signals.

Conclusion

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Pierre-Michel Bataille whose telephone number is (571) 272-4178. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri (8:00A to 4:30P).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Matthew M. Kim can be reached on (571) 272-4182. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Pierre-Michel Bataille
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2186

7/19/06

July 19, 2006